

Talley to Punish Ku-Klux Klan if It Infringes Law

Promises No Quarter if Terroristic Methods Are Used; Brands Members as Narrow Minded and Bigoted

Of the opinion that any local branch of the newest Southern Ku Klux Klan would be properly laughed out of existence, Assistant District Attorney Alfred J. Talley declared yesterday that no quarter would be shown any members of such an organization if they employed terroristic methods or violated the law in any way.

"There is no room," he said, "in the great, broad-minded State of New York for so un-American an organization as the Ku Klux Klan. The pretensions that it apparently makes to patriotism enforce Samuel Johnson's definition of patriotism as 'the last refuge of a scoundrel.' No secret, oath-bound organization is needed to preserve and perpetuate devotion to the American government nor to uphold the laws of the land and the Constitution upon which our government is founded."

Assures Protection to Negroes. In other parts of his prepared statement, which he issued both as a warning to the organizers of the Ku Klux Klan and as a reassurance to negroes of this city that they would be protected, Mr. Talley says that this organization is composed of narrow-minded bigots and "scare-head fanatics" who are opposed to everything that Abraham Lincoln stood for.

"The genius of our laws and the dominant tenet of the Constitution," he said, "is the solemn declaration that all men are created equal and have an inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. This means all Americans, no matter what their color or creed. If Lincoln was a real American this organization is opposed to everything that Lincoln stood for and every principle to which Appomattox gave a solemn sanction. It has no place in American life."

"Scare-Head Fanatics." "This Ku-Klux Klan, on their own declaration of principles, is composed of narrow-minded bigots and scare-head fanatics. There is no place for them in New York, and good citizens and real Americans will set their faces against them and their wild aspirations."

"Let the searchlight of truth and fair dealing be turned on these 'brave knights' who are afraid to fight in the

open and claim to be part of an 'Invisible Empire.' This is no time nor is America the place for the creation of any empire, invisible or otherwise."

Bank Presses U. S. Suit

National City Appeals to District Court for Procedure Advice

Carl A. Mead, counsel for the National City Bank, yesterday sought advice of the United States District Court as to the proper procedure for the continuance of the National City Bank's suit against the government to recover \$271,790, said to be owing on 20,000 bags of coffee commandeered by the Navy Department on November 21, 1918.

Mr. Mead questioned whether the case should be tried before a jury, and whether the \$313,000 paid by the government for the coffee was just compensation within the meaning of the Constitution.

When the suit was first brought, the government demurred on the ground that it could not be sued without its consent. This demurrer was overruled by Judge Knox.

Judge Mayer will hear argument in the controversy without a jury.

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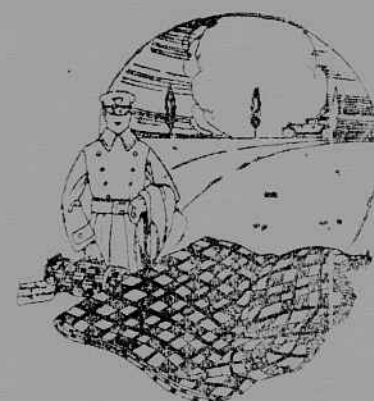
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